

Dorchester - 597
Jefferson ME Church
Smithville Rd.
Smithville, MD

1878, 1924

Access : Public

The present Jefferson ME Church is on the south side of Smithville Road, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from that road's junction with Rte. 16. The building faces north and is 16' from the road. This structure was built in 1924. The original chapel stood on the north side of the road $\frac{3}{4}$ mile from the present structure in an area that is now wooded. It measures 36' across the front facade and is 60' in depth. The congregation dates from 1876. Smithville is a black village inhabited by watermen and farmers. An abandoned school house is located on the Jefferson ME property that served as the Smithville School (colored) until consolidation in the 1950's.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Jefferson M.E. Church

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Smithville Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Smithville

VICINITY OF

Taylor's Island

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Dorchester

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**☐ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☒ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO**PRESENT USE**☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☒ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Trustees, Jefferson M.E. Church
C/O Rev. Wallace L. Greene, Sr.

Telephone #: 673-7537

STREET & NUMBER

Rte. 1, Box 14

CITY, TOWN

Preston

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
MD, 21655**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Dorchester County Court House

Liber #: JFD 17

Folio #: 458

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

N/A

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

D-597

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☐ ORIGINAL SITE
☒ MOVED DATE 1878-11-14

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The present Jefferson ME Church is on the south side of Smithville Rd., $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from that road's junction with Rte. 16. The building faces north and is 16' from the road. This structure was built in 1924. The original chapel stood on the north side of the road $\frac{3}{4}$ mile from the present structure in an area that is now wooded. The present church was built in 1924. It measures 36' across the front facade and is 60' in depth. There is an entrance tower on the south-east corner of the building it extends ten feet from the south gable. The building is gabled (North-South). It sits on concrete piers and is built of weatherboard. The building is covered with composite shingles and has a composite shingle roof. There are three steps up to the double-wooden 5 panel doors (the entrance is at the front of the tower). There are three panes of colored glass in the triangular arc above the entrance. The belfry had small $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. lancet louvers on all four sides. There is a double lancet window in the front(south) gable of the building. These windows are 2-over-2 colored-glass(yellow, blue, red) $4\frac{1}{2}$ ' in height. There are five lancet (colored-glass) $4\frac{1}{2}$ ' windows on the east side of the building and 3 identical windows on the west side. At the rear of the building is a 5' bayed extension where the sacristy is located. A new cinder block structure has been attached to the south-west side of the building. This structure is made of cinder block. It extends 40' to the west. There is an abandoned school on the west side of the Church and the cemetery.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

D-597

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1878-1924

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although the present church was built in 1924 the congregation dates from 1876. The present church is located 3/4 mile from the original site of Jefferson ME Chapel. Smithville is a black village inhabited by watermen and farmers. They have lived in this region since before the Civil War. An abandoned school house is located on the Jefferson ME Church property that served as the Smithville School (colored) until consolidation in the 1950's.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

D-597

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

James W. Clark, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Commission on Afro-American
History & Culture

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

20 Dean Street

TELEPHONE

269-2893

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

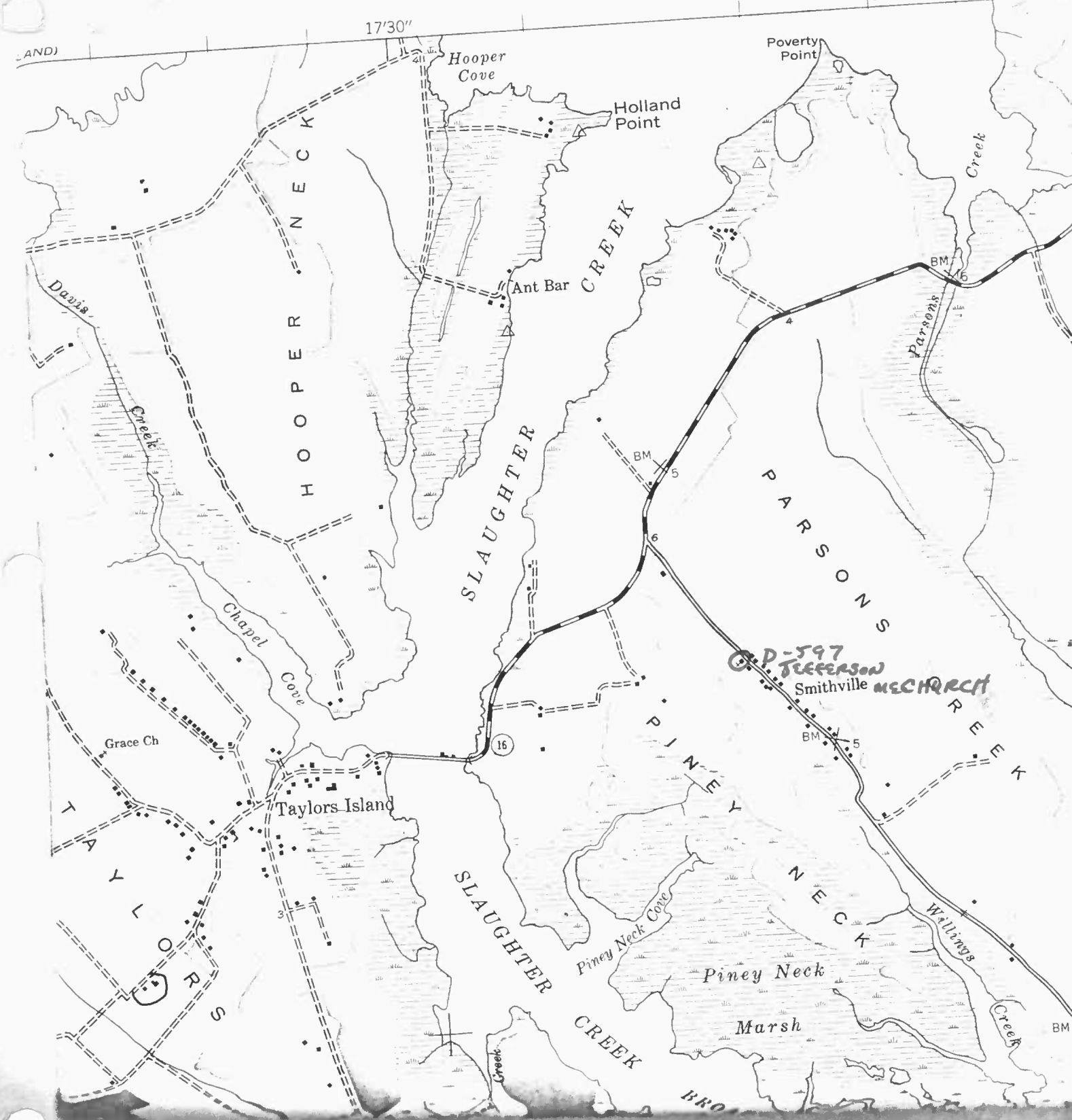
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

D-597

TAYLORS ISLAND QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND - DORCHESTER
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NE/4 DRUM POINT 15' QUADRANGLE

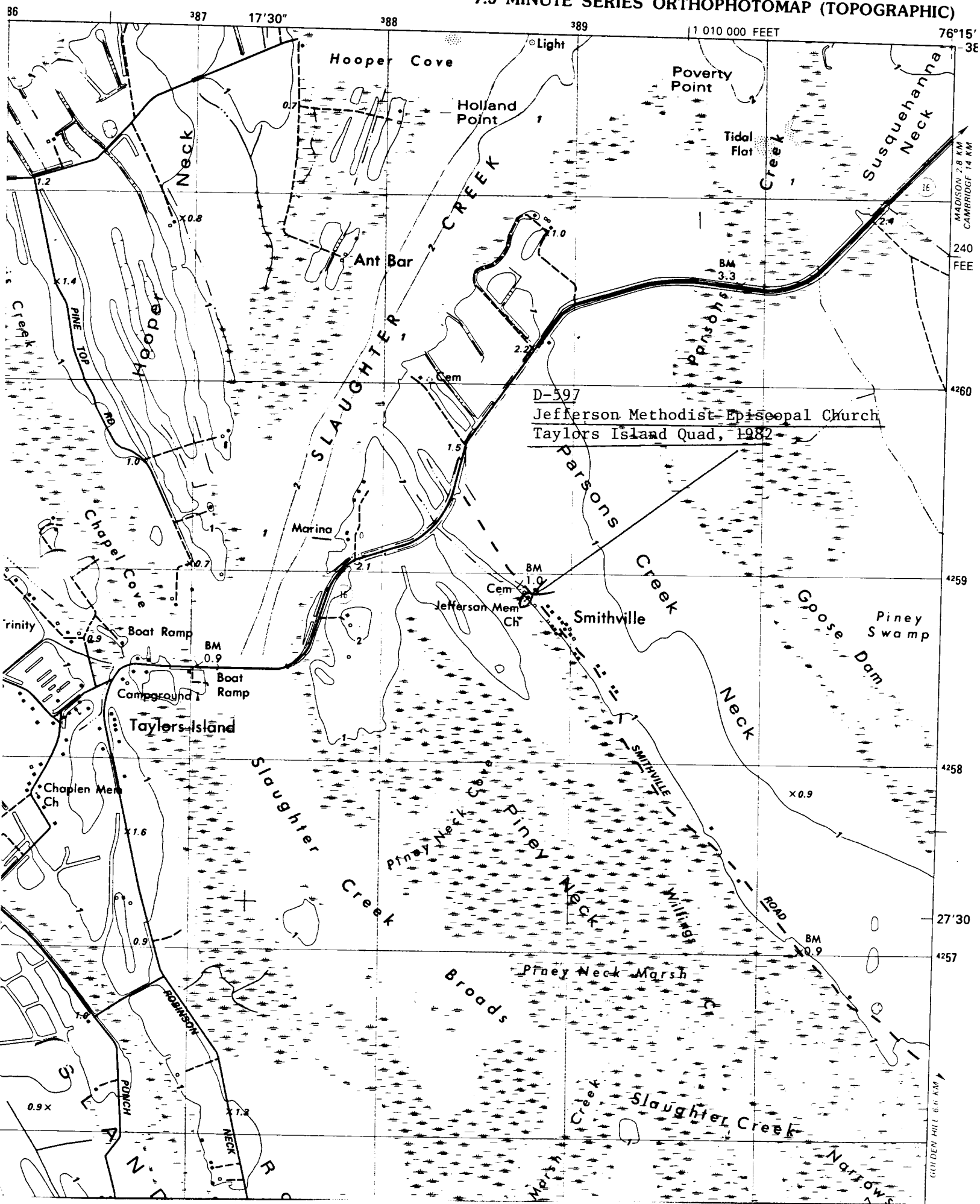
1:101,000 FEET



TAYLORS ISLAND

D-597

11 010 000 FEET





Jefferson Methodist Episcopal Church D-597
Smithville, Dorchester County, MD
Michael Hosford

Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
Northeast elevation
2/81



(597)

47%

Jefferson Methodist Episcopal Church D-597
Smithville, Dorchester County, MD
Michael Hosford

Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis,
Northwest elevation
2/81